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# Maine Construction Wage Rates 1986

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Bureau of Labor Standards

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Trade	Number of Workers	Hourly Wage Rates			
		Low	Median	High	Average
Trades in More Than One SIC					
Backhoe Operator	396	\$ 4.00	\$ 8.00	\$22.04	\$ 8.24
Bulldozer Operator	250	4.50	7.50	20.61	7.81
Carpenter	2,602	3.75	7.50	17.00	7.99
Cement Finisher	141	5.00	8.00	13.60	8.17
Crane Operator (Less Than 15 Tons)	48	5.50	8.25	20.16	9.36
Crane Operator (More Than 15 Tons)	103	6.50	10.00	22.04	11.98
Crusher Plant Operator	34	5.00	7.20	11.25	7.21
Dry Wall Applicator	224	5.05	11.00	14.00	10.63
Dry Wall Taper & Finisher	113	6.00	11.50	15.00	10.67
Electrician	786	4.25	15.05	18.65	12.79
Grader/Scraper Operator	40	5.00	8.05	20.16	8.53
Insulation Worker	164	3.55	7.50	20.56	8.08
Ironworker, Reinforcing	161	5.40	10.50	15.80	10.88
Ironworker, Structural	249	5.00	11.00	15.80	11.42
Laborers, Inc. Masons & Tenders	3,501	3.55	6.00	15.53	6.36
Loader Operator, Front End	245	4.50	7.43	20.16	7.63
Mason (Inc. Bricklayer)	277	4.80	11.00	18.33	11.06
Mechanic	213	4.75	8.00	22.04	8.17
Millwright	315	7.50	14.00	14.59	13.55
Painter, Brush	422	4.00	6.50	15.00	7.01
Painter, Spray	72	5.00	7.50	12.85	7.50
Plumber, Pipefitter, Steamfitter	949	4.00	15.85	19.00	13.68
Roofer	258	3.75	7.51	15.00	7.71
Sheet Metal Worker	302	5.00	9.00	16.00	9.42
Truck Driver (2 Axle)	320	3.70	6.00	10.53	6.23
Truck Driver (3 Axle)	595	4.50	6.10	10.75	6.29
Truck Driver (Tractor-Trailer)	72	5.00	7.00	11.20	7.18

**NOTES**

**Average Wage:** The weighted average computed by multiplying each rate by the number of workers receiving that rate then dividing by the total number of workers in the trade.

**Median Wage:** Literally, the middle rate; that is no more than half the workers in a trade earn less and no more than half the workers earn in excess of this figure.

**Source of the September 1986 employment data:** Bureau of Employment Security, Division of Economic Analysis and Research; MonFara Wage and Salary Employment

**TECHNICAL NOTES**

Rates shown in this publication should not be confused with rates issued with any determination under the Minimum Wage Rate on Construction Projects Law. There are two major differences between this data and the determined rates. The industry groups differ significantly. For this publication, the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system Major Industry Groups are used. Prevailing wage determinations, on the other hand, cross SIC groups. Also, no rate is set for a trade having less than 10 workers statewide, but data is shown here for trades with fewer than 10 workers if it was judged to be usable and its publication does not violate confidentiality restrictions.

## Maine Construction Wage Rates 1986

The Maine Construction Wage Survey is conducted annually under the Prevailing Wage Rate on Construction Projects Law. The major purpose of the survey is to provide accurate hourly wage rates by trade for State-funded construction projects. The 1986 survey had an initial mailing of 1,395 construction firms. Data from 746 respondents was used to produce the 1987 wage determinations and, subsequently, this publication. There were 380 unused reports having fewer than five employees during the survey period. The remaining 67 received, but not used, were out of business or no longer operating in the State of Maine. The data shown is based on 13,596 workers or about 46% of the estimated 29,900 employed in the Construction Industry Division in September 1986.

The industry-wide average hourly wage for 1986 was \$8.70. This is 8.6% higher than the 1985 average of \$8.01. The overall higher average wage is due to an increase in the average hourly rates in approximately two-thirds of the occupations.

**AVERAGE WAGE RATES  
BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP, 1982-1986**

	AVERAGE WAGE				
	1984	1985	1984	1983	1982
<b>Construction Industry</b>	<b>\$8.70</b>	<b>\$8.01</b>	<b>\$7.43</b>	<b>\$7.13</b>	<b>\$7.25</b>
Building Construction	8.44	7.36	7.13	7.59	7.42
Highway & Heavy Construction	7.39	7.08	6.73	6.10	5.85
Special Trades Construction	9.49	8.92	8.11	8.02	8.57

HOURLY WAGE RATES FOR SELECTED CONSTRUCTION TRADES, MAINE, 1986

	Number of Workers	Hourly Wage Rates			
		Low	Median	High	Average
<b>Building Construction (SIC 15)</b>					
Backhoe Operator	74	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00	\$20.16	\$ 8.90
Bulldozer Operator	43	4.75	7.25	20.16	8.07
Carpenter	2,140	3.75	7.50	17.00	7.88
Cement Finisher	58	5.00	7.75	13.60	7.78
Crane Operator (Less Than 15 Tons)	25	6.00	8.00	20.16	10.10
Crane Operator (More Than 15 Tons)	18	6.50	9.88	20.16	10.56
Dry-wall Applicator	17	6.00	8.00	10.25	8.21
Dry-wall Taper & Finisher	11	6.65	8.00	12.00	9.29
Electrician	234	5.00	17.09	18.65	16.09
Insulation Worker	21	5.50	7.00	10.00	7.46
Ironworker, Reinforcing	72	6.03	14.10	15.75	12.29
Ironworker, Structural	123	5.00	14.65	15.75	11.71
Laborers, Inc. Helpers & Tenders	1,357	3.55	6.00	12.47	6.43
Loader Operator, Front-End	27	6.00	7.50	20.16	8.70
Mason (Inc. Bricklayer)	54	6.00	10.00	16.00	9.73
Mechanic	17	6.00	7.50	22.04	9.74
Millwright	87	8.50	14.09	14.09	13.51
Painter, Brush	107	4.00	7.25	13.85	7.99
Painter, Spray	10	5.00	7.50	12.85	7.94
Plumber, Pipefitter, Steamfitter	121	5.75	15.85	16.40	14.90
Roofer	14	6.00	7.02	11.00	7.70
Sheet Metal Worker	93	5.50	8.00	15.51	10.10
Truck Driver (2-Axle)	63	4.75	6.25	10.53	6.91
Truck Driver (3-Axle)	16	5.50	6.25	10.53	7.10

**Highway & Heavy Construction (SIC 16)**

Backhoe Operator	173	5.00	8.25	11.85	8.41
Bituminous Raker & Spreader	57	4.50	7.00	11.00	6.84
Blaster	15	5.50	8.00	15.00	8.88
Bulldozer Operator	112	5.00	7.53	11.85	7.85
Carpenter	170	5.50	8.00	15.09	8.35
Cement Finisher	12	6.00	7.63	10.25	7.88
Crane Operator (Less Than 15 Tons)	17	5.50	9.00	13.50	8.89
Crane Operator (More Than 15 Tons)	51	7.00	11.00	20.16	11.26
Crusher Plant Operator	21	5.00	7.50	11.25	7.31
Electrician	38	6.00	12.50	13.25	11.11
Flagger	34	4.00	4.50	13.00	6.28
Grader/Scraper Operator	28	5.00	8.05	11.85	8.14
Ironworker, Reinforcing	37	5.40	6.00	9.50	6.86
Ironworker, Structural	61	6.50	10.25	14.09	10.08
Laborers (Inc. Helpers & Tenders)	693	3.55	5.75	13.50	5.97
Loader Operator, Front-End	154	4.50	7.50	12.00	7.71
Mason (Inc. Bricklayer)	15	6.84	8.50	13.35	8.96

Trade	Number of Workers	Hourly Wage Rates			
		Low	Median	High	Average
Highway & Heavy Construction (SIC 16) (continued)					
Mechanic	124	\$ 4.75	\$ 8.00	\$14.90	\$ 8.08
Millwright	36	7.50	11.50	13.00	11.14
Paver, Bituminous	37	5.50	7.10	11.00	7.18
Pipelayer	24	5.00	8.25	12.75	8.39
Plumber, Pipefitter, Steamfitter	74	7.50	12.38	15.00	11.75
Rigger	47	5.00	9.50	15.00	9.73
Roller Operator	69	4.50	7.00	11.75	6.98
Sheet Metal Worker	11	7.00	8.00	9.50	8.16
Truck Driver (2-Axle)	114	4.50	6.00	10.15	5.93
Truck Driver (3-Axle)	398	4.50	6.25	9.00	6.24
Truck Driver (Tractor-Trailer)	38	5.50	7.05	11.20	7.16

**Special Trade Contractors (SIC 17)**

Backhoe Operator	149	4.00	7.50	22.04	7.71
Boilermaker	241	11.75	17.04	18.93	17.40
Bulldozer Operator	95	4.55	7.50	20.41	7.64
Carpenter	292	4.50	7.66	15.00	8.61
Cement Finisher	71	5.00	8.25	12.50	8.53
Compressor Operator	14	5.80	22.04	22.04	15.22
Crane Operator (More Than 15 Tons)	34	7.00	10.15	22.04	13.81
Crusher Plant Operator	13	5.00	7.00	9.40	7.04
Dry-wall Applicator	207	5.05	12.00	14.00	10.83
Dry-wall Taper & Finisher	102	6.00	11.50	15.00	10.82
Electrician	514	4.25	10.00	18.65	11.42
Grader/Scraper Operator	10	6.00	7.75	11.25	8.18
Insulation Worker	145	3.55	7.96	20.56	8.17
Ironworker, Reinforcing	52	7.00	10.50	15.80	11.80
Ironworker, Structural	65	5.50	15.00	15.80	12.13
Laborers, Inc. Helpers & Tenders	1,451	3.35	6.00	15.53	6.49
Loader Operator, Front End	44	5.00	6.50	12.50	6.82
Mason (Inc. Bricklayer)	208	4.80	12.00	18.33	11.55
Mechanic	70	6.00	8.00	12.50	7.96
Millwright	192	8.00	14.00	14.59	14.01
Oilburnerman	37	4.50	8.25	13.75	8.31
Painter, Brush	313	4.00	6.50	15.00	6.66
Painter, Spray	54	5.00	8.00	11.00	7.36
Paperhanger	21	5.75	8.00	9.75	8.20
Pipelayer	13	5.00	6.50	12.50	7.01
Plasterer	15	6.00	11.00	16.88	11.40
Plumber, Pipefitter, Steamfitter	754	4.00	15.85	19.00	13.67
Refrigeration Mechanic	13	7.50	10.00	12.93	10.67
Roofer	244	3.75	7.70	15.00	7.71
Sheet Metal Worker	198	5.00	9.50	16.00	9.16
Sprinkler Fitter	21	5.75	11.00	14.79	11.63
Truck Driver (2-Axle)	143	3.90	6.00	10.00	6.17
Truck Driver (3-Axle)	181	4.55	6.00	10.75	6.33
Truck Driver (Tractor-Trailer)	31	5.00	7.00	10.00	6.97